CHRONIC HEPATITIS B

Vanja Ničković¹, Radoslav Katanić², Nataša Katanić²
Ilija Kocić

¹Clinical-Hospital Center Priština, Srbija
²University of Priština, Faculty of medicine in Kosovska Mitrovica, Serbia
³University of Nis, Faculty of medicine, Nis, Serbia

Contact: Vanja Ničković
Bulevar Nemanjića 77/9, Niš, Serbia
E-mail: vanja.nickovic@gmail.com

Hepatitis B virus is a primarily hepatotropic virus, causing both acute and chronic hepatitis (CHB). Primary chronic hepatitis B is most commonly a self-limited disease with complete recovery within 2-3 months since the onset of the disease. It is believed that 2/3 of the world population has been infected with hepatitis B virus at some point during their lifetime.

According to the WHO reports, the incidence of HBV infection is decreasing due to the introduction of mandatory hepatitis B immunization. However, about 400 million people will develop chronic hepatitis B. More than million people die every year due to chronic HBV infections, liver cirrhosis and/or hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). It means that the hepatitis B virus infection is a major global health problem.

Timely diagnosis and adequate treatment significantly slow down the course and progression of chronic hepatitis B.


Key words: hepatitis B virus, pathogenesis, clinical manifestation, immunization, diagnosis, treatment, chronic hepatitis B